EVALUATION
Assessing outcomes, improving practice, and communicating results

We work with public agencies, tribal communities, healthcare providers, and community-based organizations to provide independent, objective evaluation findings that help organizational leaders assess outcomes, improve their practices, and communicate results. Approaches used include: survey instrument design, data collection and analysis; program assessment and performance measurement; project management and evidence-based/evidence-informed programs and practices.

How we work with our partners

- Highlight program results.
- Use data to improve programs.
- Develop program measures and reporting systems.
- Build evaluation capacity within client organizations.
- Design feasible data collection strategies.
- Connect current work to future trends.
- Engage leaders, staff, and stakeholders from the start.
- Assess current strengths, gaps, and opportunities.
- Focus evaluation on priorities, scope, and budget.
- Disseminate findings in ways that are tailored to clients' needs.

A SUCCESS STORY Patient-centered Medical Homes

Funding Partners: Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of MaineCare Services, The Bingham Program, The Betterment Fund, the Sam L. Cohen Foundation, and the Davis Family Foundation

Cutler Institute staff are evaluating the Maine Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Pilot initiative, a statewide, multi-payer demonstration to test the impact of new strategies for organizing and paying for primary care on healthcare quality and costs. Conducted in 26 primary care practices in Maine, the pilot involves partners such as Maine Quality Counts, MaineCare, the Maine Quality Forum, and the Maine Health Managers Coalition. Cutler staff are assessing whether the resources provided to practices through the demonstration (including enhanced payments, training, consultation, and learning collaboratives) have led to practice transformation and to improvements in quality of care, cost efficiency, and patient/family satisfaction.
At the Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy, we are dedicated to developing innovative, evidence-informed and practical approaches to pressing health and social challenges.

Our more than 130 experienced staff take pride in our collaborative partnering with clients throughout the nation, from state and federal agencies to the private sector. With advanced degrees and decades of experience in areas of policy, social work, law, education, business administration, and public health, the Cutler Institute’s staff provide global, multidisciplinary approaches and resources to complex issues.

Using research and policy analysis, training and technical assistance, as well as program development and implementation, the Cutler Institute’s practical approach helps to translate best practices into everyday practice for government and community agencies.

Our primary research areas include children, youth, and families; disability and aging; justice policy; and population health and health policy.

Our staff are committed to working closely with each client – no matter the scope of the project – to examine the root of an issue and provide sustainable solutions that help leaders and organizations further their mission and vision. This scope of services and attention to both client and community solutions is unique to the Cutler Institute.

Kris Sabonchik, Director
Cutler Institute for Health & Social Policy
207-780-5856 | kriss@usm.maine.edu
34 Bedford Street, P.O. Box 9300
Portland, ME 04104-9300
usm.maine.edu/muskie/cutler